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Special Election to Elect Mayor of Detroit



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City Of Detroit
Kenneth V. Cockrel, Jr.
Mayor

Detroit City Council
Monica Conyers
President
JoAnn Watson
President Pro-Tem
Sheila Cockrel
Barbara Rose Collins
Brenda Jones
Kwame Kenyatta
Martha Reeves
Alberta Tinsley-Talabi

On Tuesday, May 5, 2009, a Special General Election will be held in Detroit for the purpose of electing a Mayor to fill the unexpired term through January 1, 2010. Also, a Detroit Charter revision question will appear on the ballot. For those who qualify, beginning on April 6th through May 4th, you may vote by absentee ballot at the Department of Elections. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. On Monday May 4th, you may vote by absentee ballot until 4:00 p.m.

Remember:

To determine your respective district, precinct and Election Day polling location, please refer to the above chart. You

must vote at your assigned district and precinct. Michigan Election Law mandates that the address on your driver's license or state identification card must match your voter registration address. Therefore, if the address on your driver's license or state ID is different from the above address, you are not registered to vote in the district and precinct indicated.

Included in this newsletter is a sample ballot and voting

instructions. Study it before Election Day and you will be properly equipped to vote.

When going to vote on Election Day, please be prepared to show an acceptable form of photo ID. If you do not have photo ID, you must fill out and sign an affidavit.

If you require further information regarding the Special General Election, please feel free to contact the Registration Division of the Department of Elections at (313) 876-0190.


When voting, fill in the oval to the right of the name of the candidate of your choice.

The polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. Anyone in line before the polls close will be allowed to vote.

***Let's Vote Because
 It's Not Only Our Right,
 It's The Right Thing
 To Do!***

OFFICIAL BALLOT

Special General Election Tuesday, May 05, 2009 Wayne County, Michigan City of Detroit

TO VOTE: Completely darken the oval opposite each choice as shown: 

IMPORTANT: To mark your ballot, use only a black or blue ink pen. **DO NOT USE ANY OTHER INK COLOR!**

DO NOT vote for more candidates than indicated under each office title.

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES: To vote for a candidate whose name is not printed on the ballot, write or place the name of that candidate in the blank space provided and completely darken the oval. Do not cast a write-in vote for a candidate whose name is already printed on the ballot for that office.

WHEN YOU HAVE COMPLETED VOTING: Place the ballot in the secrecy sleeve so that votes cannot be seen and the numbered stub is visible. Return the ballot to the election official stationed at the tabulator. (If voting by absentee ballot, follow the instructions provided by the clerk for returning the ballot.)

NOTE: If you make a mistake, return your ballot to the election official and obtain a new ballot. Do not attempt to erase or correct any marks made in error.

CITY	CITY PROPOSAL
MAYOR Vote for not more than 1	PROPOSAL C REVISION OF THE 1997 DETROIT CITY CHARTER Do you favor a revision of the 1997 Detroit City Charter by a Charter Revision Commission whose members will be nominated at the Regular City Primary Election held on August 4, 2009 and elected at the Regular City General Election held on November 3, 2009?
Dave Bing <input type="radio"/>	YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input type="radio"/>
Ken Cockrel Jr. <input type="radio"/>	
<input type="radio"/>	

Detroit Voter Roll is Efficient and Stable

By Janice Winfrey

There has been discussion surrounding the City of Detroit's voter file and its accuracy. It has been reported and expressed by some that Detroit's voter file is bloated and unreliable. The main issues surrounding these allegations have been claims of voter fraud, names of deceased electors on the voter roll and an under represented percentage of voter turnout in Detroit. Please allow me to explore and satisfy the questions and concerns related to these prevailing issues.

Upon becoming City Clerk, I made it my primary priority to ensure that all of Detroit's voter records were accurate. The Department of Elections (DOE), since 2006, has been working to enhance the integrity of the Detroit elections process by first removing all invalid voter registration records from the Qualified Voter File (QVF). QVF is the database that houses all voter records in Michigan.

In order to meet the challenge, the administrative staff of the Department of Elections and I met with the Michigan Bureau of Elections. The Bureau of Elections afforded us with a list of previous voters who either died or no longer reside in Detroit. This list was compared with Detroit's

QVF and, as a consequence, voter records were expunged. In an effort to comply with Michigan Election Laws regarding the purging of voter records, the DOE also met with the Social Security Administration and the City of Detroit Health Wellness Promotions Department to examine the records of individuals who had died within the past ten years. The Detroit Health Wellness Promotions Department continues to provide a monthly report of deceased voters to the DOE.

It is not as easy as one may think to cancel a voter's record. Before the enactment of the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) of 1993, election administrators could cancel a voter's record after five (5) years of inactivity. Since NVRA, canceling a voter's record is largely dependent upon the voter, family member(s) of the voter or other agencies notifying the DOE, in writing, of the voter's death or their relocation to another jurisdiction. The intent of NVRA is to protect voters from being disenfranchised through arbitrary cancellations made by election administrators due to inactivity.

For a voter's record to be cancelled, one of the following must take place: The DOE must receive (1) a

request, in writing, from the voter to have their voter registration record cancelled; (2) the DOE receives information, in writing, from a reliable source that the voter is deceased; (3) the DOE receives written information that the voter has registered in another jurisdiction; (4) if a Voter Identification Card is mailed and then returned by the United States Postal Service as "undeliverable," a confirmation notice is mailed to the voter's last address on file. The notice informs the elector that their voter registration will be cancelled if they do not respond to the notice or fails to vote over the course of the next two federal election cycles.

By the end of 2006, more than 53,000 voter records were cancelled. This effort between state and local officials to ensure the accuracy of Detroit's voter file led Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land to present the DOE with a reimbursement check for nearly \$116,000 to cover costs of verifying voter records.

The registered voters in Detroit decreased significantly and then grew dramatically by 2008. By the end of 2005, there were more than 636,000 registered voters in Detroit.

By January 2008, there were 576,000 registered voters. However, in readiness for the November 4, 2008 Presidential Election, many organizations embarked on a voter registration drive. Consequently, more than 83,000 new electors were registered to vote – of which only 49% voted in the Presidential Election (53% was the overall turnout for Detroit). By Election Day, approximately 631,000 electors were registered to vote.

Between January 2006 and March 2009 more than 81,000 voter records were cancelled from Detroit's QVF. An additional 47,000 voter records are due to be cancelled by April 2009. These records are being cancelled due to no (voting) activity by the electors after two successive federal elections (NVRA).

By the end of 2009 more than 128,000 voter records will have been cancelled from the voter roll. Thus, leaving Detroit with approximately 575,000 registered voters. Our goal has always been and continues to be maintaining accurate and reliable voter records in Detroit.

***Let's Vote Because It's Not Only Our Right,
It's The Right Thing To Do!***

ELECCION GENERAL ESPECIAL
Martes 5 de Mayo, 2009
Condado de Wayne, Michigan
Ciudad de Detroit

PARA VOTAR: Llene completamente el ovalo opuesto a cada una de sus elecciones como se muestra: 

IMPORTANTE: Para marcar su voto, use tan solo bolígrafo de tinta negra o azul. **NO USE NINGUN OTRO COLOR DE TINTA.**


NO VOTE por más candidatos de los indicados bajo el titulo de cada posición u oficina.

CANDIDATOS ESCRITOS: Para votar por candidatos cuyo nombre **NO** está impreso en la boleta, escriba o ponga el nombre de ese candidato en el espacio en blanco y llene completamente el ovalo. **NO** escriba el nombre de un candidato cuyo nombre ya está impreso en la boleta para esa posición u oficina.

CUANDO TERMINE DE VOTAR: Ponga su boleta dentro del sobre de manera que sus votos no puedan ser vistos y que el talón numerado sea visible. Entregue su boleta al oficial de la elección que se encuentre en el tabulador. (Si está votando con una boleta de ausente, siga las instrucciones dadas por el encargado para regresar su boleta).

NOTA: Si comete un error, regrese su boleta al oficial de la elección y obtenga una boleta nueva. **NO** intente borrar o corregir ninguna marca hecha en error.

الانتخابات العامة
الثلاثاء ٥ مايو (آيار) ٢٠٠٩
محافظة وين، ميشيغن، مدينة ديترويت

 **الإقتراع:** ظلل تماما الشكل البيضاوي المقابل لكل إختيار كما هو في الشكل.

هام: إستخدم فقط قلم حبر باللون الأسود أو الأزرق، لا تستخدم أي لون آخر.

لا تقترع لمرشحين غير المشار إليهم لكل منصب.

إذا رغبت في الإقتراع لمرشح ليس موجودا إسمه على قسيمة الإقتراع، اكتب إسم هذا المرشح في المكان الفارغ المعد وظلل الشكل البيضاوي. لا تكتب إسم مرشح موجود على لائحة الإنتخاب.

حين تنهي إقتراعك: ضع القسيمة في الظرف السري بحيث لا أحد يستطيع رؤية إقتراعك وبحيث يكون الرقم ظاهرا، ثم أعد القسيمة إلى المسؤول الواقف إلى جانب ماكينة الإقتراع (إذا كان الإقتراع غيايبا، إتبع الإرشادات الموجهة من الموظف حين تعيد القسيمة).

ملاحظة: إذا قمت بخطأ، أعد القسيمة إلى المسؤول واحصل على قسيمة جديدة، لا تحاول التصليح والشطب.